



2727 COWORKING / RESEARCH & PRACTICAL GUIDANCE

Working Through a Montreal Winter: An Office Guide

Find a practical home for your work at 2727 Coworking in Montreal. Explore private offices, day workspaces and meeting rooms, plus business-address and virtual-mailbox services for your company.

Published by 2727 Coworking · 2026-10-29 · montreal winter commute · working in montreal winter · montreal winter survival office

Original article: <https://2727coworking.com/articles/working-through-montreal-winter-commute-lunch-snow-building-access-office>



In this article

1. What actually costs you money in a Montreal winter
2. Rule 1: Snow-removal parking bans and towing
3. Rule 2: Winter tires from December 1 to March 15
4. How the City sequences clearing, and what it means for your commute
5. Commuting: pick a mode for the season, not the day
6. Lunch without going outside (much)
7. Storm days: a morning-of checklist
8. Staying productive when it is dark at 4:15
9. Winter-ready office checklist (November)
10. Sources

What actually costs you money in a Montreal winter

Most winter advice is about boots and coats. For someone who works in an office, the expensive mistakes are different: a towed car on a snow-loading night, a fine for summer tires on December 2, or a lost morning because nobody planned for a storm. This guide puts the rules first, then the practical routine.

Some scale: the City says snow crews clear about 10,000 km of streets and sidewalks, Montreal receives about 190 cm of snow on average, and it takes about five snow-loading operations each winter to remove it. In ideal conditions, collecting 15 cm of snow takes at least 4 days and 4 nights once it has been pushed to the curb ([Ville de Montréal, Everything to know about snow removal](#)). Plan for several multi-day loading cycles on your street and around your office every winter.

Rule 1: Snow-removal parking bans and towing

When the City loads snow onto trucks, it bans street parking with **temporary orange signs**. The two standard shifts ([Ville de Montréal, How to park your car in winter](#)):

Operation	No-parking period	When the signs go up
Daytime	7 a.m. to 7 p.m.	The previous day, before 8 p.m.
Nighttime	7 p.m. to 7 a.m.	The same day, before 3 p.m.

Source for sign timing: [Ville de Montréal, Signage for snow removal operations](#).

Read that table with an office schedule in mind. If you park on the street near work in the morning, a sign for a **7 p.m.** ban can go up while you are at your desk. If you leave the car overnight, a sign for a **7 a.m.** ban can appear in the evening after you go home.

Exceptions by borough (same City page):

- **Anjou** posts signs 8 hours before the ban begins.

- **Saint-Laurent** usually posts signs during the shift before the one when snow is cleared, sometimes only four hours before vehicles are towed.
- **LaSalle, Pierrefonds-Roxboro and Verdun** also show snow-loading bans on permanent signs. In LaSalle and Verdun, you must **call the number on the sign** to find out whether a ban is in effect.
- **Pierrefonds-Roxboro** has a parking ban every day from 1 a.m. to 7 a.m. from November 1 to April 1.

Two rules that apply everywhere:

- **Temporary signs take priority over permanent signs**, and the permanent signs still have to be obeyed.
- "If you do not comply with signage, your vehicle will be towed and you will be fined" ([Signage for snow removal operations](#)).

What it costs. Two charges stack up:

- **Towing fee: \$99.** The 2026 agglomeration tariff by-law sets \$99 for towing a vehicle parked in breach of a parking rule during snow-removal operations ([RCG 26-003, art. 87](#)).
- **Parking ticket: \$30 to \$60, plus court costs.** In Le Sud-Ouest, which includes Griffintown, parking where a sign prohibits it breaches art. 30 of the borough's traffic and parking by-law, and art. 83 sets the fine at \$30 to \$60 ([R.R.V.M. c. C-4.1, Le Sud-Ouest](#)). Other boroughs apply their own version of the by-law.

Worked example: a car left under a 7 p.m. sign near a Griffintown office costs up to \$60 + \$99 = \$159 before court costs, plus the time spent finding where it was moved.

Tow trucks use audible warning devices as they pass to remind drivers to move ([How to park your car in winter](#)). Do not rely on hearing them from a fourth-floor office.

Tools that tell you before the sign does

- **The snow removal operations map** shows when streets are scheduled for loading and lists **incentive parking lots** where you can park for free during operations. The map is updated only during snow-loading periods, and street signs always take precedence over it ([Ville de Montréal, Snow removal operations map](#)).
- **The 311 Montréal app** lets you track operations in real time and get notifications to move your car ([Ville de Montréal, Snow Removal](#)).
- **Free night parking:** during snow-removal periods, free municipal spaces are available at night, in collaboration with the Agence de mobilité durable; the map shows where ([How to park your car in winter](#)).

If your car was towed, the City has a page to find out where it was taken (same page).

How to park in winter

The City's own tips ([How to park your car in winter](#)):

- park 30 cm from the sidewalk;
- fold back your rear-view mirrors;
- never park at an angle.

Rule 2: Winter tires from December 1 to March 15

Quebec requires winter tires on passenger vehicles for a fixed period. "Your vehicle must be winter-ready from December 1 to March 15," and drivers who do not comply face a fine of **\$200 to \$300** ([Québec.ca, Requirements for winter tires](#)).

What office workers ask:

Question	Answer
Does it apply to my rental or car-share vehicle?	Yes. It applies to all motor vehicles registered in Quebec, including rentals, and the regulation applies to anyone renting out a vehicle in Quebec regardless of where it is registered (Regulation, s. 1)
I drive in from Ontario with Ontario plates.	The requirement does not apply to vehicles registered outside Quebec (Québec.ca)
Do all-season tires count?	No. A compliant winter tire must bear the winter-tire pictogram shown on Québec.ca or be studded (Québec.ca)
When can I use studded tires?	October 15 to May 1 for passenger vehicles, taxis and commercial vehicles up to 3,000 kg loaded mass (Québec.ca)
Can I take them off on March 16?	Legally yes, but Québec.ca recommends waiting a few weeks after the end of the period because spring conditions vary

Tire shops get busy in late November. Book the swap in early November.

How the City sequences clearing, and what it means for your commute

Knowing the order of operations helps you predict which routes will be passable at 8 a.m.

- **Streets are cleared by priority.** After each snowfall, the City clears major streets and reserved public-transit lanes first, then collector streets that connect them, then residential streets ([Ville de Montréal, Seven myths about snow removal](#)). A route that stays on main arteries is usually the safer bet on a storm morning.
- **Clearing and loading are two different steps.** During a major storm, the priority is to push snow aside so streets and sidewalks are passable; loading usually starts the day after the storm ([Ville de Montréal, What to do in case of a major winter storm](#)). The parking bans come with that second step, often a day or more after the snowfall ends.
- **Salt has limits.** The City notes that salt works relatively well between 0 °C and -15 °C and loses effectiveness when it is colder, which is why gravel is mixed in ([Seven myths](#)). On very cold days, expect slippery sidewalks even after treatment, and wear footwear with grip.

What counts as a major storm. The City treats a storm as severe when the forecast calls for more than 30 cm of heavy snow combined with freezing rain, high winds, intense cold or blizzard conditions. Its advice for getting around on those days is direct: "Choose to work from home if it is possible," opt for public transit, and if you must drive, slow down and favour main streets, which are usually cleared first ([What to do in case of a major winter storm](#)). A team rule that says "on a City-declared storm day, default to remote" saves a round of messages every time.

Commuting: pick a mode for the season, not the day

Transit. For a Griffintown office, the metro is the default winter option; 2727 Rue Saint-Patrick, for example, is near Charlevoix station on the Green Line. The STM runs no separate winter metro timetable: Green line trains come every 2 to 4 minutes at weekday peaks and every 3 to 8 minutes off-peak ([STM, Green line](#)). Buses are what slow down in snow, so check the [STM service status page](#) before you leave and allow buffer time on storm mornings.

The underground city. Downtown, the RÉSO links about 32 km of pedestrian galleries to metro stations, offices and shops ([Ville de Montréal](#)). It does not reach Griffintown, but if your meetings are downtown you can often get from the metro to the building without going outside. If you are new to the area, our [Griffintown vs Plateau comparison](#) covers how each neighbourhood connects to transit.

Cycling. Winter cycling is common in Montreal and has its own infrastructure and gear questions; see our [winter cycling guide](#).

Walking. The City clears sidewalks as well as streets, which it notes is not the case in many other large cities ([Everything to know about snow removal](#)). Its safety advice for anyone near snow machinery: avoid earphones, keep your distance from equipment and make sure you are clearly visible (same page).

Driving. If you must drive, the real cost is not fuel but the ban cycle. A monthly indoor parking spot near the office removes the street-sign question entirely during loading weeks.

Lunch without going outside (much)

The best winter lunch strategy is boring: bring it. A shared office kitchen and a lunch you prepared on Sunday mean no trip across an icy intersection at noon.

When you do go out:

- choose places within a five-minute walk for the coldest weeks;
- in Griffintown, Atwater Market is within reach of the Lachine Canal offices for food shopping;
- keep a spare pair of indoor shoes at the office so you are not in wet boots all afternoon.

Client lunches can move indoors to a meeting room with catering instead of a restaurant across town. If you do take clients out, our [business attire guide for Quebec winters](#) covers what to wear without arriving soaked.

Storm days: a morning-of checklist

A big storm is a planning problem, not a surprise. Run through this the evening before and the morning of.

The evening before

1. Check the forecast and the 311 Montréal app for loading operations on your street and near the office.
2. If you parked on the street near work, check for orange signs before you leave the office.
3. Charge your laptop and phone, and bring the laptop home if remote work is allowed.
4. Agree with your team or clients: who comes in, who works remotely, which meetings move to video.

The morning of

1. Check whether loading operations or signs affect your car before you move it.
2. Decide on the mode: metro rather than driving on heavy-snow days.
3. Leave earlier than usual; allow for slower walking and crowded transit.
4. Keep warm layers, spare socks and indoor shoes at the office.
5. If you are responsible for a small office, confirm the building entrance and parking access are cleared. The City requires owners to clear snow from a property's main entrance and parking entrance, and in most boroughs that snow may not be pushed onto the sidewalk or street ([Ville de Montréal, Snow clearing on private property](#)). If you rent, check who does this in your lease.

Staying productive when it is dark at 4:15

The National Research Council's calculator for Montréal gives these times (Eastern Standard Time) ([NRC](#)):

Date	Sunrise	Sunset
December 8, 2026 (earliest sunset)	7:22 a.m.	4:11 p.m.
December 21, 2026	7:32 a.m.	4:14 p.m.
January 15, 2027	7:31 a.m.	4:37 p.m.
February 15, 2027	6:57 a.m.	5:21 p.m.

Through December, anyone who leaves at 5 p.m. goes home in the dark. Winter productivity is mostly about structure:

- **Front-load focused work** in the morning when you are freshest.
- **Get outside at midday** for ten minutes when the sidewalks allow it. The Lachine Canal path is a short walk from many Griffintown offices; our [Lachine Canal guide](#) covers the route.
- **Keep a fixed start time** even on remote days. Storm days easily turn into four-hour days.
- **Mix office and home deliberately.** Decide in advance which days you will be in, so a snowfall changes the plan less.
- **Watch your shared calendar for loading weeks.** Three in-person meetings on a loading night means three people looking for parking.

Winter-ready office checklist (November)

Task	Done by
Winter tires booked, installed by December 1	Each driver
311 Montréal app installed, office address saved	Everyone who drives
Indoor shoes, spare socks and a scraper kept at the office	Everyone
Remote-work rule for storm days written down	Team lead
Contact list for clients if meetings move online	Account owner
Building entrance and parking snow clearing confirmed (owner or landlord)	Office manager
Laptops set up to work from home on short notice	IT or each person

Sources

1. Everything there is to know about snow removal in Montréal (Ville de Montréal)
2. How to park your car in winter (Ville de Montréal)
3. Signage for snow removal operations (Ville de Montréal)
4. Snow removal operations map (Ville de Montréal)
5. Snow Removal hub and 311 app (Ville de Montréal)
6. Snow clearing on private property (Ville de Montréal)
7. Requirements for winter tires (Québec.ca)
8. Regulation respecting the use of tires specifically designed for winter driving, C-24.2, r. 45 (LégisQuébec)
9. Seven myths about snow removal (Ville de Montréal)
10. What to do in case of a major winter storm (Ville de Montréal)
11. Règlement sur les tarifs de l'agglomération de Montréal (exercice financier 2026), RCG 26-003 (Ville de Montréal)
12. Règlement sur la circulation et le stationnement (R.R.V.M. c. C-4.1), Le Sud-Ouest codification (Ville de Montréal)
13. Line 1, Green (STM)
14. Service status (STM)
15. RESO, le réseau souterrain de Montréal (Ville de Montréal)
16. Sunrise/sunset calculator (National Research Council Canada)

2727 Coworking is a short walk from Charlevoix metro in Griffintown, and its indoor garage has a few monthly parking spots for members who still need to drive.

Source links

Links cited in this article, in order of first appearance. Full addresses are provided for readers using extracted text.

1. <https://montreal.ca/en/articles/everything-there-to-know-about-snow-removal-montreal-22600>
2. <https://montreal.ca/en/articles/how-to-park-your-car-winter-4145>
3. <https://montreal.ca/en/topics/signage-snow-removal-operations>
4. <https://montreal.ca/reglements-municipaux/recherche/697b912f60b48cbd015d9dbf>
5. <https://montreal.ca/reglements-municipaux/recherche/616059f0ee486000110b2c8b>
6. <https://montreal.ca/en/services/snow-removal-operations-map>
7. <https://montreal.ca/en/snow-removal>
8. <https://www.quebec.ca/en/transport/traffic-road-safety/winter-road-safety/requirements-for-winter-tires>
9. <https://www.legisquebec.gouv.qc.ca/en/document/cr/C-24.2,%20r.%2045>
10. <https://montreal.ca/en/articles/seven-myths-about-snow-removal-21714>
11. <https://montreal.ca/en/articles/what-to-do-case-major-winter-storm-3281>
12. <https://www.stm.info/en/schedules-and-routes/metro/1-Green>
13. <https://www.stm.info/en/info/service-updates/metro>
14. <https://montreal.ca/articles/reso-le-reseau-souterrain-de-montreal-13713>
15. <https://montreal.ca/en/topics/snow-clearing-private-property>
16. <https://nrc.canada.ca/en/research-development/products-services/software-applications/sun-calculator>

THE PUBLISHER

About 2727 Coworking

2727 Coworking is a Montreal workspace and business-address provider. We serve people who need a place to focus, meet, run a small business or establish a professional mailing presence. Our website offers English and French information about workspace options and services, alongside educational resources for operating a business in Canada.

A workspace that fits the day

Our workspace options include private offices, day passes and desks, and a conference room. These formats help individuals and teams compare a dedicated office with more flexible ways to work or hold a meeting. Prospective members can explore the virtual tour, review current pricing and book a visit before choosing a workspace.

Business addresses and mail

2727 Coworking provides business-address and virtual-mailbox services. Our resources explain the documents and practical questions involved, including guidance for people outside Canada. Service eligibility, included features, availability and access arrangements should be confirmed on the applicable service page or with our team.

Resources for Canadian small businesses

We publish guides, research and planning tools about workspace decisions, business addresses and starting a business in Canada. Our incorporation research includes information for people inside Canada and abroad, with jurisdiction-specific material to help readers identify the next questions to investigate. These educational resources complement our workspace and address services; they are not individualized legal, tax or immigration advice.

Visit or contact 2727 Coworking

Explore [private offices](#), [day passes and desks](#), [the conference room](#), [business addresses](#) and [virtual mailboxes](#). [Book a visit](#) or [contact the team](#) to discuss your needs.

A business address alone does not establish tax residence, immigration status, banking approval or eligibility for a government program.

Website: <https://2727coworking.com>

This article is educational. Verify consequential medical, legal, financial, regulatory and technical decisions with appropriate professionals and the cited primary sources. Company services are described separately from the article's research findings.